



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACTION MEMORANDUM

S/S

August 17, 1977

TO: The Secretary

FROM: D/HA - Patricia M. Derian

SUBJECT: Presidential Determinations for Funds to Support the Parole Program to Admit into the United States 15,000 Indochinese Refugees Presently in Thailand and Elsewhere

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Now that the Attorney General has authorized parole into the United States for an additional 15,000 Indochinese refugees who are presently in camps in Thailand and elsewhere in Asia, funds to support the program are urgently required. Presidential Determinations are necessary to obtain funds to begin the program.

ESSENTIAL FACTORS

General

There are now 84,000 refugees from Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam in camps in Thailand, and nearly 8,000 additional refugees from Vietnam elsewhere in Thailand and in other Asian countries to which they escaped by boat. Each month between 1,200 and 1,500 persons escape into Thailand from Laos and Cambodia, and 500 Vietnamese make their way to countries on the littoral of the South China Sea. With the President's approval, you requested that the Attorney General authorize the parole of 15,000 of these refugees into the U.S. and after consultation with the Congress the Attorney General on August 11, 1977, did so.

Funding

The major expenses involved in paroling these refugees are incurred in their selection, documentation, transportation, and resettlement placement. These functions will be performed by a combination of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), private American voluntary agencies, and U.S. Government officials and will cost an estimated \$13.5 million. Of this amount, \$3 million is needed immediately from funds currently available in the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund for program start-up costs and initial operation. An additional \$4.2 million from the Fund for continuing program costs will be needed on October 1, 1977 when additional refugee emergency funds are expected to be available in the FY 1978 appropriation. Additionally we are now requesting an urgent FY 1978 Migration and Refugee Assistance supplemental appropriation for the remaining \$6.3 million needed to complete the program.

Recommendation:

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President.

Attachment:

Memorandum to the President

Drafted by: D/HA: JChavchavadze/HBCushing/ALang: cml

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Concurrences: L/M: KEmalmberg
A/BF/OB: DWilliamson
EA: TBarnes
D/HA: JLCarlin

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From: Cyrus Vance

Subject: Presidential Determinations to Provide Funds for the Parole of 15,000 Indo-chinese Refugees into the United States

Presidential Determinations, under Section 2(c) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, are required to make available to the Department of State from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund \$3,000,000 immediately from funds currently available and, on or about October 1, 1977, subject to the availability of appropriated funds, an additional \$4,200,000. The funds are required for selecting, documenting, processing, transporting and the resettlement placement of up to 15,000 refugees from Indochina who are being paroled into the United States under a program authorized by the Attorney General. Of these, 8,000 are presently in camps in Thailand, and another 7,000 are elsewhere in Thailand and in other Asian countries to which they have escaped by boat.

This emergency situation is the consequence of the collapse of the governments of Indochina in 1975, and of the continuing exodus from those countries. It is in the national interest to admit these refugees, and funds are urgently needed to effect their movement as rapidly as possible.

\$3,000,000 will be used for program start-up and for initial operating costs. \$4,200,000 will be required to continue operations through the remainder of calendar year 1977 and beyond. (An additional \$6,300,000 which is estimated as the requirements to complete the program is being requested urgently as a FY 1978 Migration and Refugee Assistance supplemental appropriation.)

Recommendation:

That you sign the attached Determinations to make available \$3,000,000 now and \$4,200,000 on October 1, 1977 to the Department of State for the parole of Indo-chinese refugees into the United States.

Attachment:

Presidential Determinations

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Presidential Determination

No. _____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Determination pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, (the "Act") authorizing the use of \$3,000,000 of funds made available from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund

In order to meet unexpected and urgent needs arising in connection with the admission of 15,000 Indochinese refugees presently in Thailand and elsewhere who are authorized for parole into the United States, I hereby determine, pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Act, that it is important to the national interest that \$3,000,000 from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund be made available to the Department of State for this purpose.

The Secretary of State is requested to inform the appropriate committees of the Congress of this Determination and the obligation of funds made under this authority.

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Presidential Determination

No. _____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Determination pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, (the "Act") authorizing the use of \$4,200,000 of funds made available from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund

In order to meet the continuing operating needs of the program to admit 15,000 Indochinese refugees from Thailand and elsewhere who are authorized for parole into the United States, I hereby determine, pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Act, that it is important to the national interest that \$4,200,000 from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund be made available in FY 1978 to the Department of State for this purpose.

The Secretary of State is requested to inform the appropriate committees of the Congress of this Determination and the obligation of funds made under this authority.